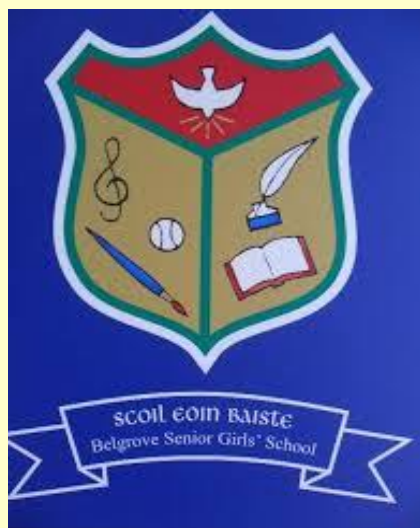




ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM SECOND CLASS TEACHERS



Introduction

Dear Parents,

We welcome you and your daughter to 2nd Class. Teachers and pupils alike are all excited to be back in the classroom.

Your daughter has now entered the Senior School. This year is about empowering the girls to become more responsible in their learning and in the organisation of their school books and equipment.

We are looking forward to a productive and enjoyable year. Lots of work and lots of fun! 😊

Ms. Daly, Ms. Finn, Ms. Mason & Ms. O'Connell

Class Blog

We will be using our Class Blogs on the school website to keep parents updated in classroom activities and projects. Click on:

<http://www.belgroveseniorgirls.ie/category/class-blogs/2ndclassblogs/>

School Requirements

Your child will need the following supplies this year:

1. Pared HB pencils
2. Coloured pencils and crayons
3. Eraser and pencil sharpener
4. Ruler
5. Pritt Stick
6. Art Shirt
7. 2 whiteboard markers
8. Highlighters

The pencil case must be left in school

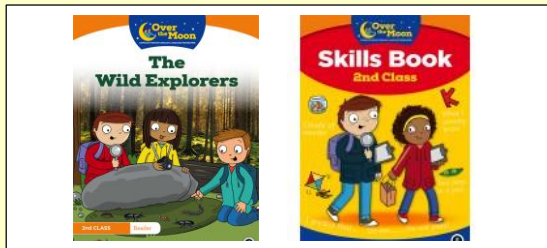
Homework

Homework is an essential part of your child's learning. It reinforces what she has learned in class that day. It is important she completes it fully and correctly. In Second Class we encourage each child to develop her organisational skills in relation to her homework.

This year the girls will have traditional homework ie Mental Maths and also online homework through **Seesaw** and e-books online. This is in effort to reduce the amount of books being brought home and also to help the girls gain the technology skills needed, should there be further restrictions or closures.

Oral homework is as important as written homework. Second Class homework should take roughly 20 - 30 minutes of consistent work. All journals should be signed every night after checking that homework has been completed accurately.

English Scheme



We are excited to be using a new English scheme in line with the new language curriculum. Over the Moon is available online.

<https://www.gillexplore.ie/gill-explore-resources/over-the-moon-2nd-class-skills-book?Chapters=0&ResourceTypes=11344>

Reading

Homework reading must be read **aloud** for you every night. If your child has difficulty with a word, help her to break it into syllables and sound it out. If this fails, tell her the word and ask her to read the sentence again. At the end of the reading session, chat with your child about the content of what she has read. We cannot over emphasise the importance of developing a love of reading at this stage.

Reading material should always be at your child's reading level. Read to your child, read with your child (paired reading), let your child read to you. Make it fun!

We encourage 15minutes reading for pleasure every night.



Spelling

The children are encouraged to learn spelling using the “**Look and Say, Cover, Write, Check**” method. The actual writing down of each spelling using the spelling strategies they have been taught in class, is a very important part of the learning process. Their spellings will be checked on an on-going basis through dictation exercises.

English Writing

We encourage the children to be accurate with sentence structure, punctuation, spellings and grammar.

In order to promote self-expression and fluidity of ideas during creative writing, all mistakes may not be corrected.

Handwriting

Neat hand writing is expected in classwork, homework and in project work. The neat layout of work is an important skill. This is reinforced in class on a daily basis and should be encouraged at home.

Joined writing will be introduced through the Go with the Flow programme.

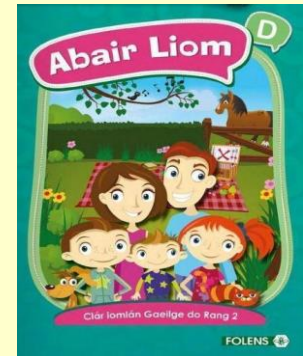
Gaeilge

The revised curriculum has a strong emphasis on oral language. We would encourage each child to use the phrases and vocabulary she learns in school at home. These can be found on *Abair Liom online*.

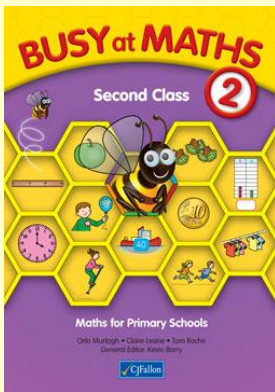
<https://www.folensonline.ie/home/>

Please use the online recordings to practice reading, this will help with pronunciation.

We will be trialing SingFónaic; an Irish phonics programme to assist with Irish reading and pronunciation.



Maths



The Maths programme in Second Class is Busy at Maths 2. The learning of addition and subtraction tables is **essential**.

Tables can be learned, as spellings are, using the “**Look and Say, Cover, Write, Check**” method. Additional resources are available on the school website.

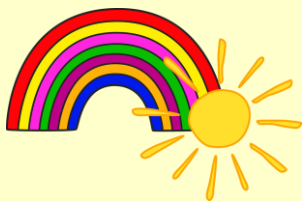
Many Maths topics can be carried out informally. Help your child to:

- Read the time both in digital and analogue.
- Be familiar with coin values and be aware of change when shopping.
- Understand fractions (halves and quarters) when sharing.

Busy at Maths is available online, you may need the school roll number (17148D) if you are setting up an account for the first time.

<https://www.cjfallon.ie/>

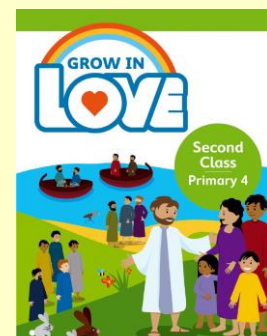
S.P.H.E



We are using the Weaving Wellbeing, Stay Safe, Walk Tall, RSE and Webwise programmes to deliver the SPHE curriculum. We would encourage you to engage in the Home –School Links in these programmes.

Religion

We are continuing with Grow in Love programme in class. We would encourage you to engage with the Home-School Links you can register on www.growinlove.ie



Healthy Lunches

Children should bring healthy lunches to school and should bring home unfinished lunches. Crisps and fizzy drinks are not allowed. Sweets and chocolate should be discouraged.

Please ensure that your child brings home her recyclable cartons in her lunch boxes. A re-useable water bottle with a sip lid which does not spill is recommended!

Communication Requirements

Written notes from parents are necessary in the following circumstances written on a separate sheet, not in the Homework Journal

- Absence
- Lateness
- Leaving early
- Staying in from yard

All journals should be signed every night after checking that homework has been completed accurately.

Please email us at: 2ndclass2020@belgroveseniorgirls.ie if you have any queries or wish to discuss something with us.

Social Media

Please monitor your child's use of the internet, they should be supervised when online. The HSE recommended Screen Time allowance is 2 hours.

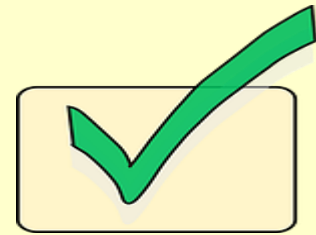
See www.webwise.ie



Assessment

Standardised Tests -The MICRA-T Level 2 Reading Test is usually administered in September and The Sigma-T Maths Test is administered at the end of the school year.

Currently we are awaiting DES guidelines in relation to these.



Seesaw

Our school is using the online platform to help facilitate blended and distance learning. It is a fantastic way for students to submit work and receive feedback from their teachers. FAQ are found on the link below:

<http://www.belgroveseniorgirls.ie/2020/05/seesaw-helpful-information/>



Project Work

Don't Stress! Projects at this stage are usually 2 scrapbook pages long, about 10 facts and pictures. Keep it simple and in the childrens' own words. Encourage neat and tidy presentation. Guidelines will often be put on the Class Blog.